

LEA & COTTAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH HALL, BLACKPOOL ROAD, LEA, PRESTON AT 7.30 PM on MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2009

PRESENT: Cllrs Clegg (Chairman) Butler, Lambert, Oliver, Hardcastle, Noble, Dickinson, Helvin, Hart & Jones

17 Members of the public were present.

94/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Coward & Ward

95/09 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTS

None

96/09 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th October 2009 should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

97/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned for a period of public participation.

Several members of the public made representation against the granting of permission by the Parish Council for Harris Cricket Club to use Miller Green as its home cricket ground which would involve works to improve the ground and potentially the erection of a pavilion/changing facilities and provision of car parking both of the latter being subject to planning permission. Concerns were expressed with regard to road safety due to the increase in vehicular movement and lack of available parking which was already a concern in that area, the construction of any pavilion which might attract anti social behaviour and would detract from the open aspect of the area, the potential for future liquor licences to be obtained and that any suggestion of creating a car park as a counter to any road safety issues would in fact be detrimental to the amenity of the area and would in itself create further hazard due to the restricted access to Miller Green and the narrow local roads one of which was a private unadopted road. It was felt that road congestion was already an issue particularly on Saturdays due to the locality of the church and its early evening services and that it would be severely worsened should the proposal be given the final go ahead.

It was also mentioned that it was felt that Harris Cricket Club had not made sufficient alternative enquiries around the area and that Preston City Council were now looking to seek potential locations in the city, that concerned existed with regard to the funding of the proposals which might potentially leave the Parish Council to pick up any shortfall and that no realistic business case had been presented.

Comments were made concerning the current use of the land and that better use could be made of it locally however this did not include the formalised cricket arrangements that were being proposed by Harris CC which were considered inappropriate to the area in general for the reasons previously outlined and which were also presented to the Council at a recent localised public meeting to discuss this issue.

One member of the public did suggest that the level of vehicular movement would not be as great as people seemed to think and a further comment made suggesting that since the whole of the parish contributed to the current maintenance costs of Miller Green that a wider consultation across the whole parish should be undertaken before any final decision was taken.

The meeting was reconvened

98/09 HARRIS CRICKET CLUB – MILLER GREEN

Members had been asked to further consider the request from Harris Cricket Club to use Miller Green as its home cricket ground which would involve works to improve the ground and potentially the erection of a pavilion/changing facilities and provision of car parking both of the latter being subject to planning permission.

A motion was put forward: That this Council should in the light of public concerns as outlined during public participation and at a recent public meeting refuse permission for Miller Green to be used as the home ground of Harris Cricket Club.

A recorded vote was requested.

In favour: Cllrs Lambert, Butler, Dickinson, Noble, Clegg, Hart & Oliver (7)

Against: Cllr Hardcastle (1)

Abstentions: Cllrs Helvin & Jones (2)

It was therefore resolved that this Council should in the light of public concerns as outlined during public participation and at a recent public meeting refuse permission for Miller Green to be used as the home ground of Harris Cricket Club.

99/09 PLANNING APPLICATION

Members had been asked to consider Preston City Council planning application number 2009/0722 requesting permission to erect 2 no 16-20m high wind measuring masts @ Preston Sports Arena Tom Benson Way PR2 1SG

It was resolved that no representation should be made.

100/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS

It was resolved that the below mentioned payments should be approved.

500554	Lea St Mary's Primary School	Donation s137	150.00
500555	Lea Community PS	Donation s137	150.00
500556	Lea Endowed PS	Donation s137	150.00
500557	Cottam PS	Donation s137	150.00
500558	St Bernard's PS	Donation s137	150.00
500559	St Mary's Church	Donation	100.00
500560	Royal British Legion	Remembrance Day Wreath s137	50.00
500561	Greenwood Gardening Services	Lengthsman	957.00
500562	MWK Contractors	Miller Green Maintenance Contract 2009	1950.00
500563	Greenwood Gardening Services	Lengthsman	912.00

101/09 BUDGET REVIEW TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2009 & PRECEPT 2010/11

Members had been asked to consider the revised budget for the current year, the budget proposals for 2010/11 & consider setting the Precept for 2010/11 at the same level as this year (£38000.00)

It was resolved that the revised budget for this year should be accepted and that based on the budget proposals put forward for 2010/11 the Precept for 2010/11 should be set at £38000.00

102/09 SLCC SUBSCRIPTION AND CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Members had been asked to consider and approve payments to SLCC in respect of the Clerk's annual subscription and attendance at the Practitioner's Conference and Regional Conference at an estimated cost of £150.00 being a third share of the total cost divided amongst the three Councils for whom he works.

It was resolved that the above mentioned payments should be approved

103/09 CODE OF CONDUCT WORKSHOP

Members had been asked to consider whether anyone wished to attend a Code of Conduct Workshop on the 4th February 2010 @ a cost of £20.00.

It was resolved that Cllrs Lambert & Jones should attend the above workshop or such alternative as might be arranged.

104/09 BNFL STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

Members noted a verbal report following the recent BNFL (Westinghouse) Stakeholder Group meeting which had discussed the recent 'emergency scenario' relating to any potential toxic gas leak. One Councillor was concerned that he had not been made aware of the event and that the Parish Council had not been invited to be present. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had been advised and that all Parish Council members had been sent a letter advising of the event although clearly in this one case the letter had not been received.

105/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as the 11th January 2010